

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Industry and Science Portfolio  
Additional Estimates 2014-15  
26 February 2015

---

**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND SCIENCE

**TOPIC:** ACIL Allen – Stakeholder Panel

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 26 February 2015, page 132)

**QUESTION No.:** AI-37

**Senator KETTER:** I would like to move onto the subject of energy efficiency and in particular the Commercial Building Disclosure program. Could you update the committee on what the goal is of the independent review of the CBD program being undertaken by ACIL Allen?

**Ms Helen Bennett:** You are correct: ACIL Allen is undertaking an independent review of the Commercial Building Disclosure program. The terms of reference are available on the CBD website, but basically the review assesses the objectives of the program—whether the objectives are clear and remain relevant, whether the CBD program is the most effective and appropriate mechanism to achieve the objectives, and the effectiveness of the program in terms of promoting energy efficiency. It also looks at the interaction of the program with the Emissions Reduction Fund, and they are sort of the main terms of reference in terms of what it will assess. The review is expected to provide recommendations in relation to the merits of continuing the program, the lessons learnt for the possible extension of mandatory disclosure to other building types, the options for its future funding—including cost recovery if appropriate—the most appropriate governance framework, and also the potential improvements to the operation of the program.

**Senator KETTER:** How much is the review costing?

**Ms Helen Bennett:** The review has cost just under \$180,000. I can give you the exact number: it is \$176,963.

**Senator KETTER:** Thank you very much. And how was the contract awarded to ACIL Allen. Were there any other companies considered for the review?

**Ms Helen Bennett:** There were. We have a panel, we have a building energy efficiency panel that the department administers. From memory, we went from approximately six or seven consultants who we felt had the appropriate skills, and ACIL Allen was selected after I think we received quotes from about four of those six or seven that we went to.

**Senator KETTER:** And how many stakeholders participated in the November public sessions?

**Ms Helen Bennett:** I do not have the details in front of me. From memory there were around 30 in the Sydney session, and the Melbourne one was a little smaller: I think it was around 15. I could take the exact numbers on notice.

## ANSWER

Commercial Building Disclosure (CBD) programme review stakeholder consultations were held in Melbourne on 6 November 2014 and Sydney on 10 November 2014. Attendee numbers were as follows:

- Melbourne Stakeholder Workshop – 14 attendees (nine stakeholders, five ACIL Allen and departmental staff); and
- Sydney Stakeholder Workshop – 30 attendees (23 stakeholders, seven ACIL Allen and departmental staff).